

MTF Formulary Management for Non-Dihydropyridine Calcium Channel Blockers (CCB) Verapamil and Diltiazem

Department of Defense Pharmacoeconomic Center

Uniform Formulary Decision: The Director of TMA has approved the recommendations from the August 2005 DoD P&T Committee meeting regarding formulary status of Non-Dihydropyridine Calcium Channel Blockers (verapamil and diltiazem) on the Uniform Formulary (UF) and Basic Core Formulary (BCF) outlined below. Conversion from non-formulary agents to a BCF or uniform formulary drug or establishment of medical necessity may commence 13 October 2005 and must be completed by 15 Mar 2006.

Uniform Formulary (UF) Agents		Non-Formulary Agents
Verapamil and Diltiazem CCB products on BCF MTFs <u>must</u> have on formulary	Verapamil and Diltiazem CCB products not on BCF MTFs <u>may</u> have on formulary	Verapamil and Diltiazem CCB products <u>must not</u> have on formulary
Verapamil sustained release (generic) Diltiazem extended release (generic; Inwood Pharm preferred)	Verapamil immediate release (generic) Diltiazem immediate release (generic) Diltiazem sustained release (generic)	Covera HS Verelan Verelan PM Cardizem LA

- Non-formulary (NF) designated verapamil and diltiazem products are the least cost-effective agents in the class. Reserve NF agents for use in patients who cannot be treated with any of the UF designated verapamil or diltiazem formulations. MTFs must use the medical necessity (MN) criteria established by the DoD P&T Committee for non-formulary designated verapamil and diltiazem formulations. The criteria are available on the TRICARE Pharmacy website: www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/medical-nonformulary.cfm. A Microsoft Word version of the TMOP/TRRx MN form adaptable for MTF use is available on RxNET.
- Diltiazem extended release from Inwood Pharmaceuticals is the preferred once daily diltiazem product for the BCF.
- The non-formulary products Covera HS, Verelan PM, and Cardizem LA are extended release formulations specifically labeled for use at bedtime. There is no data to support greater efficacy over more cost effective formulary products.

Verapamil and Diltiazem CCB MTF Price Comparison	
Drug & Dosage Form	Weighted Average Daily Cost (June 2005) ^{ab}
Basic Core Formulary products	
Verapamil sustained release (generic)	\$0.14
Diltiazem extended release (generic)	\$0.16 (Inwood Pharm)
Other Uniform Formulary products available for inclusion on MTF formularies	
Verapamil immediate release (generic)	\$0.07
Diltiazem immediate release (generic)	\$0.09
Diltiazem sustained release (generic)	\$0.62
Non-formulary products	
Covera-HS	\$1.65
Verelan PM	\$1.15
Verelan	\$1.00
Cardizem LA	\$1.00

^a Post-decision prices; actual price may vary slightly due to MTF-specific Prime Vendor discounts and/or fees

^b MTFs are prohibited from entering into any incentive pricing agreements in any form with diltiazem and verapamil pharmaceutical manufacturers to receive additional discounts.

References

- For the full clinical review of the CCBs and discussion about UF decisions, log onto RxNET (the PEC's webforum) www.dodrxnet.org (under "File Library" forum, "DoD P&T Library" folder).
- Current/future drug class under review by the DoD P&T Committee: www.pec.ha.osd.mil/PT_Committee.htm
- TRICARE website for information on the Uniform Formulary: www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy
- TRICARE Formulary Search Tool: www.tricareformularysearch.org

POC: For more information email: angela.allerman@amedd.army.mil.